

# HEALTH PROFESSIONS AND PRELAW CENTER

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## DOCTOR OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

### SUGGESTED PLAN FOR PURDUE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE FOR INDIANA UNIVERSITY BLOOMINGTON STUDENTS

Indiana University does not offer a degree program in veterinary medicine. Students may complete the minimum prerequisite courses on this campus before applying for admission to any school of Veterinary Medicine. The following list of IU Bloomington courses comprises the minimum required coursework for admission to the Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine and has been reviewed and approved by Dr. Jim Weisman, the Director of Student Services. A student who intends to apply to another institution should consult the following publication, Veterinary Medical School Admission Requirements (available for purchase on Purdue's Web site). A reference copy is also available in Maxwell Hall 010.

#### IMPORTANT

This document has been prepared for Indiana University Bloomington students by the Health Professions and Prelaw Center. It should be noted that specific requirements and policies can change at any time without notice. Students are responsible for obtaining the most current information directly from the application services, and the school(s) and program(s) in which they have an interest. Visit the following website for Purdue's requirements: <http://www.vet.purdue.edu/>.

PURDUE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS <sup>1,2</sup>	INDIANA UNIVERSITY BLOOMINGTON COURSES <sup>3</sup>	CREDITS
English composition	ENG-W 131; <b>or</b> alternative (see advisor)	3
Communication (interpersonal, persuasion, or speech)	COLL-P 155 (public oral communication) <b>or</b> ANTH-A 122 (interpersonal communication)	3
Biology with laboratory (diversity, developmental, and cell structure)	BIOL-L 111, BIOL-L112 , BIOL-L113 (lab)	11
Genetics	BIOL-L 311 (Note: Biol-L 211 is the prerequisites for Biol-L 311.)	3
Microbiology (general or medical) with lab	BIOL-M 200 & 215 (lab) <b>or</b> BIOL-M 250 & 255 (lab) <b>or</b> Biol-M 380 & Biol-M 315 (lab) <b>or</b> BIOL-M 440 & Biol-M 445 (lab)	4-6
Statistics	PSY-K 300, PSY-K 310, STAT-S 303, <b>or</b> SPEA-K 300	3
General chemistry with laboratory	CHEM-C 117/127 (lab) and CHEM-N 330 <sup>3,4</sup> <b>or</b> CHEM-C 118	10
Organic chemistry with laboratory	CHEM-C 341/343 (lab), and 342/344 (lab)	10
Biochemistry <sup>5</sup>	CHEM-C 383 <b>or</b> CHEM-C 483	3
Physics with laboratory	PHYS-P 201 & 202 <b>or</b> PHYS-P 221 & 222	10
Humanities	Foreign languages, cognitive and social sciences	9
Animal Nutrition	Not available at IU. <sup>6</sup>	3
Careers in Vet Med	Not available at IU. This is not a problem and will not affect eligibility.	1

<sup>1</sup> A minimum grade of "C-" is required for all prerequisite courses for admission (called "core subjects" by Purdue).

<sup>2</sup> While Purdue accepts online lectures courses for pre-requisite courses, Purdue does not accept online labs. All labs must be completed onsite at an institution.

<sup>3</sup> Careful planning is required. Some courses are taught only once each year. Others have strict prerequisite and/or co-requisite course requirements. Visit the most recent College of Arts & Sciences bulletin website for more info: <http://www.indiana.edu/~bulletin/iub/>.

<sup>4</sup> Students are advised to take CHEM-C 341, 342 and 343 prior to taking CHEM-N 330.

<sup>5</sup> This course should be a complete upper-division course; half of a two-semester sequence will not satisfy this requirement.

<sup>6</sup> An online course is available through Purdue and other universities. For information about Purdue's online animal nutrition course, contact Dr. Dale Forsyth, Animal Sciences Department at [dforsyth@purdue.edu](mailto:dforsyth@purdue.edu) or 765.494.4841.

**Note: The courses listed here are the only courses approved by the Purdue College of Veterinary Medicine as course equivalents on the Indiana University campus. Substitutions of other courses are not appropriate, nor acceptable to the Admissions Committee. Pre-veterinary students should follow their undergrad program of study regardless of minimums indicated above.**

**Recommended Electives** – Accounting (BUS-A 200), Business Administration (BUS-X 100), Business/Technical Writing (ENG-W 231 or BUS-X 204), Exploring Entrepreneurship (BUS-W 212), Economics (ECON-E 201 and/or ECON-E 202), Principles of Immunology (BIOL-L 321), Personal Finance (BUS-F 260) and New Venture Management (BUS-W 300). Pre-veterinary students may want to consider completing all courses that are required for a minor in Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management (see <http://www.kelley.iu.edu/ugrad/academics/minors.cfm>).

## **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND STATISTICS**

### **Shadowing and Observation**

To become a qualified applicant, you will need to gain veterinary experience, but there is no absolute minimum requirement. The goal to keep in mind is not the number of hours of experience, but the quality and diversity of the experience. Effort should be made to include experience with large animals and exotics.

### **Volunteering and Other Professional Development**

- Veterinary animal experience is a non-academic factor taken into consideration by the Admissions Committee. Personal pets are not included in meeting the animal experience required. Volunteering and internship opportunities are available in the Bloomington area. For example, the Monroe County Humane Association ; Pets ALIVE, Inc. (a spay/neuter clinic); People & Animals Learning Services, Inc. (PALS, therapeutic riding and hippotherapy); and WildCare, Inc. (wildlife rehabilitation center).

### **Grade Point Average (GPA)**

Students would be well advised to attain a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) no less than a 3.2. Mean grade point averages (GPAs) for the class entering fall 2016 are:

In-state:	CGPA = 3.62 (3.22 to 4.00)
Out-of-state:	CGPA = 3.62 (3.23 to 4.00)
In-state prerequisite:	GPA=3.48 (2.85 to 4.00)
Out-of-state prerequisite:	GPA = 3.45 (2.88 to 4.00)

### **Application Information**

- A minimum grade of **C-** is required for each admission course.
- Applicants must have a cumulative GPA (including course repeats) of no less than a 3.0 to receive consideration.
- Admission to Purdue's program does not require the completion of a Bachelor's degree. However, most students have completed a Bachelor's degree before they begin the professional program (see "Other Admission/Program Info" below).
- The state of residence is an important factor as students are considered for admission to schools of veterinary medicine. Indiana residents will want to apply to Purdue University but may also wish to consider additional schools. **50%** of the students admitted to the fall 2015 class were nonresident students.
- Apply online through the Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS), **by September 15<sup>th</sup> deadline**. The online application is available in mid-May 2017 at <https://vmcas.liasoncas.com/applicant-ux/#1/login>
- The GRE code for Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine VMCAS is 1573.
- **All supporting documentation materials should be submitted by the September 15th deadline.** This includes transcripts, GRE scores and references.
- Students should also be aware that the admission committee will consider the total number of hours carried each semester. The Doctor of Veterinary Medicine curriculum, which is a four-year program, includes a minimum of 18 credit hours and a maximum of 22 credit hours each semester. It is extremely important that a student demonstrate the capability of handling this rigorous program.
- International students are eligible to apply to Purdue's Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program.

### **Letters of recommendation**

A total of three letters of recommendation is required. At least one must be written by a practicing veterinarian. All letters of recommendation must be submitted via "eLOR" with VMCAS by the **September 15th deadline**.

### **Admission Interview**

An interview is required. Applicants in continued consideration will be invited in mid-December for an interview held on either one of the last Fridays in January.

**Credit Hours Required Prior to Beginning Professional Program** (but not necessarily at time of application): Purdue requires that all prerequisite coursework be completed by the end of the spring semester prior to beginning the professional program in the fall (courses, not credit hours are considered). This means that prerequisite courses may **not** be taken during the summer prior to beginning the veterinary program. The animal nutrition prerequisite is the exception; you have until the start of your veterinary medical classes (mid-August) to complete this requirement.

### **Personal statement**

A personal statement is required. It has three prompts about which the admissions committee request you write.

- a. **There are many career choices within the veterinary profession. What are your future career goals and why?**
- b. **In what ways do veterinarians contribute to society and what do you hope to contribute?**
- c. **Considering the breadth of society we serve as veterinarians today; what attributes do you believe are essential to be successful within the veterinary profession? Of these attributes, which do you possess and how have you demonstrated these in the past?**

## **ADMISSION ISSUES, SUGGESTIONS AND NOTES**

### **Consider a Back-up Plan**

It's always wise to have a "Plan B" when applying to a program that has competitive admissions. Schedule an appointment to see a HPPLC health professions advisor to explore your options by going to the HPPLC website (<http://www.hpplc.indiana.edu>) and then scrolling down to where it says, "Make an Appointment: Click HERE."

### **Other Admission/Program Info**

- Since only a few students gain admission after two years of college study, it is advisable to complete the required courses over three years. In fact, students are urged to pursue a bachelor's degree, which will afford them an alternative career if they are not admitted to a veterinary school. Approximately 90% of the fall class of 2015 had completed at least four years of college.
- Other factors considered by the Admission Committee include the development of time and stress management skills; demonstration of oral and written communication skills; demonstration of critical thinking and problem solving skills; and commitment to a life-long learning process.
- Purdue University holds a Spring Open House each year on a Saturday during the Spring Fest week-end.
- Because policies, procedures and admission requirements vary from one program to another, HPPLC advisors suggest that you research all programs and apply to several.
- Visit the Association of American Veterinary Colleges website: <http://www.aavmc.org>.
- You are strongly encouraged to find out whether or not the programs you're interested in applying to have rolling admission and **do not wait to apply until the deadline**. Your fall semester will be much more manageable if you don't wait!
- It is wise to begin assembling the parts required for the programs you are interested in applying to **before** the application becomes available. This includes:
  - researching the programs you'd like to apply to (<http://www.aavmc.org/> -> Applying to Veterinary Schools -> College Specific requirements) and contacting representatives about any other questions you might have about the unique opportunities and financial assistance their programs offer;
  - Although Purdue does not require the Graduate Record Exam (GRE), some schools do so reviewing for and taking the GRE, [www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org) (work on your vocabulary by reading books and/or articles that require you to pick up a dictionary and look up the definition!);
  - reading through all of the available information on VMCAS about the current cycle requirements, including "Applicant Responsibility" section, "Helpful Hints" and FAQ's;
  - asking the required recommenders about whether or not they are willing to write supportive letters of recommendation for you; and
  - begin writing your essay or personal statement (if needed for the programs you're applying to).
- The Graduate Record Exam is available on-campus at the Bloomington Evaluation Services and Testing (BEST) in Eigenmann Hall, Suite 324 West. The testing center is available for testing Monday-Saturday, 8am-10pm. Go to the GRE website at <http://www.ets.org/gre> to schedule a time to take the test. Feel free to call 812-856-0684 if you were to have any questions.
- *Cautionary note:* Students should be aware that some health professions programs will not accept Advanced Placement credit or credit-by-examination towards meeting admission requirements, or accept such credit only under restricted circumstances. Students should also be aware that receiving an exemption from a degree requirement is not generally considered equivalent to Advanced Placement credit, credit-by-examination, or credit from coursework.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

- 1) Academic Performance (55%)
  - Cumulative GPA
  - Prerequisite GPA (“core subjects”)
  - Overall academic performance (includes honors courses and study abroad programs)
  - Honors and Awards
- 2) Non-academic Activities (45%)
  - Experience (veterinary, research, non-veterinary animal)
  - Extracurricular activities
  - Interview
  - Paid employment
  - References

## PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM STARTING DATE

The professional program begins in August.

## CAREER INFORMATION

- Visit the website of the Association of American Veterinary Colleges for more information about the profession: <http://www.aavmc.org>.
- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook, employment is expected to increase much faster than the average (see <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/a-z-index.htm>).

## PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

Student Services Office  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
Lynn Hall, Room 1185  
625 Harrison Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2026  
Phone (765) 494-7893  
E-mail: [vetadmissions@purdue.edu](mailto:vetadmissions@purdue.edu)  
Website: <http://vet.purdue.edu/dvm/>

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We encourage you to use e-mail to ask questions and to communicate with our pre-health profession advisors concerning veterinary programs nationwide. Send e-mail to an individual pre-health advisor or to [hpplc@indiana.edu](mailto:hpplc@indiana.edu).

Please add your name to the HPPLC listserve by visiting the HPPLC website: <http://www.hpplc.indiana.edu>. Also, check the HPPLC website for notices about upcoming meetings, our spring Health Programs Fair, campus visits by admission representatives and other items of interest.

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